

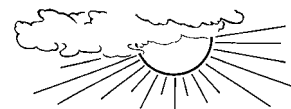


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Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending November 21, 2004

Issued weekly, April-November

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa

We would like to take the opportunity and extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every reporter who helped us this year in putting the *Weekly Crop and Weather Roundup* together. We could not have done it without you. Our sincerest wishes also go out for everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season.

- NASS, Pennsylvania Statistical Office

Good Week for Field Work: Once again, weekend showers dampened an otherwise wonderful week of weather in the Keystone State. Overall, five days were suitable for field work, and principal farm activities included feeding livestock, harvesting corn and soybeans, chopping corn stalks, spreading manure, equipment maintenance, and preparing for the winter months.

show that 79 percent of emerged wheat is rated as either good or excellent.

Livestock: Farmers are rotating animals from field to field throughout the state. Some farmers have taken advantage of the opportunity to have their cows serviced by bulls or AI services before the harsh winter weather sets in.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending November 21, 2004

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	1	74	25

Crops: Record and near-record yields in many areas of Pennsylvania slowed the corn harvest considerably as farmers are now faced with the onus of finding a place to store the excess grain. Eighty-eight percent of corn is now harvested, now only slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Given the delays in harvesting corn, many farmers were able to turn their attention to harvesting soybeans. The soybean harvest is now 84 percent complete, a marked jump from the previous week and now on track with historic trends. Eighty-nine percent of sorghum has now been harvested. Eighty-eight percent of winter wheat has now emerged, slightly behind historic trends. Early indications on the wheat crop condition

U.S. As of November 14, 2004: Highlights: Warm, dry weather favored fieldwork across the northern Great Plains and northern Corn Belt. Meanwhile, a storm system gradually moved across the southern half of the Nation throughout the week, causing moderate precipitation and limiting fieldwork from California to the southern and middle Atlantic Coast States. Temperatures were below normal in the eastern Corn Belt, along the Atlantic Coast, in southern California, and in Texas, while above-normal temperatures prevailed across the rest of the Nation. Corn: Producers had harvested 86 percent of their acreage, 8 percentage points behind last year and the 5-year average. Winter Wheat: Ninety-three percent of the acreage had been planted, compared with 97 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Emergence, at 87 percent complete, was the same as last year but 2 points ahead of normal. Soybeans: Harvest advanced to 93 percent complete, 3 points behind last year and the 5-year average. Sorghum: Eighty percent of the acreage had been harvested, 3 points behind last year and 10 points behind normal.

Weather Data For Week Ending November 21, 2004

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 21, 2004					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	57	28	48	7	0.39	3	30.09	0.83	100	2,820	173	4,895
Franklin	57	24	45	7	0.36	3	42.28	11.71	119	2,634	225	4,696
Meadville	57	21	46	7	0.42	3	37.25	6.05	107	2,475	271	4,492
Mercer	56	13	43	5	0.32	2	35.61	6.47	97	2,071	-313	4,023
Springboro	58	20	46	5	0.46	3	38.92	10.77	121	2,404	-183	4,412
Warren	55	20	44	7	0.37	3	44.05	12.94	127	2,461	138	4,481
North Central												
Bradford Region	53	21	44	10	0.08	1	30.33	-0.39	109	2,009	354	3,910
Emporium	57	18	43	6	0.17	3	39.99	9.83	113	2,603	718	4,615
Kane	48	11	37	2	0.29	3	36.93	5.43	101	1,250	-364	2,930
Laporte	53	23	42	4	0.10	3	47.91	19.45	122	2,216	-161	4,107
Lock Haven	59	21	45	7	0.20	2	47.93	20.06	94	2,934	403	5,042
Port Allegany	55	17	43	8	0.21	3	35.33	5.97	109	2,174	338	4,101
Renovo	58	22	46	7	0.13	4	38.89	11.02	116	2,844	313	4,941
Ridgway	55	17	43	6	0.24	3	39.30	9.14	95	2,146	261	4,093
Stevenson Dam	57	22	44	8	0.16	3	40.94	10.78	105	2,698	813	4,757
Towanda	58	20	43	5	0.11	2	35.25	11.44	101	2,719	321	4,751
Wellsboro	57	22	43	8	0.28	3	41.09	17.34	107	2,117	337	4,041
Williamsport	58	24	46	6	0.19	5	38.24	10.10	116	3,109	317	5,252
Northeast												
Hawley	54	18	39	2	0.21	1	40.22	13.21	83	2,305	264	4,220
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	55	27	44	5	0.13	2	33.39	7.41	93	2,839	192	4,912
Susquehanna	54	21	41	6	0.08	3	40.89	11.70	101	2,759	836	4,772
West Central												
Butler	58	22	46	7	0.35	4	40.63	12.21	122	2,613	110	4,668
New Castle	59	22	47	8	0.52	4	41.90	15.64	94	2,931	425	5,021
Slippery Rock	57	22	47	9	0.28	3	40.22	12.09	116	2,731	489	4,827
Central												
Altoona/Blair	58	30	47	7	0.43	3	39.59	14.21	112	2,795	130	4,867
DuBois	54	27	46	8	0.31	4	39.90	11.28	136	2,428	151	4,441
Lewistown	63	25	47	7	0.37	3	37.67	10.50	91	3,132	203	5,265
Middletown	63	33	49	7	0.40	2	42.53	15.38	97	3,610	282	5,828
Prince Gallitzi	57	17	43	6	0.39	3	39.67	7.36	103	2,435	306	4,422
Selinsgrove	60	23	45	5	0.31	3	40.51	12.19	101	2,992	272	5,094
State College	59	24	47	9	0.28	3	39.31	13.62	97	2,877	266	4,972
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	61	29	48	6	0.26	1	37.66	8.18	86	3,239	200	5,393
Lehighton	58	27	44	3	0.28	3	42.49	13.04	107	2,822	-105	4,902
Matamoras	59	23	42	4	0.25	1	35.84	6.03	89	2,503	-110	4,495
Tobyhanna	58	19	42	8	0.25	3	45.94	13.66	123	2,457	712	4,446
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	57	30	49	9	0.74	3	34.64	8.00	108	3,186	495	5,342
Derry	57	21	46	7	0.56	2	43.61	16.05	109	2,833	299	4,934
Myersdale	56	19	44	5	0.72	3	36.28	6.17	97	2,268	-230	4,270
Mount Pleasant	56	21	47	9	1.28	3	42.49	11.03	91	2,782	524	4,857
Pittsburgh Intl	59	26	49	9	0.27	3	38.34	13.66	105	3,212	393	5,365
Rector	59	20	46	8	0.66	4	44.27	12.81	126	2,827	569	4,907
Waynesburg	61	24	47	7	1.21	4	40.52	13.60	105	2,910	313	5,019
South Central												
Biglerville	63	30	49	6	0.30	3	41.85	16.00	100	3,271	16	5,433
Everett	63	21	45	5	0.55	3	37.48	12.53	94	2,464	-194	4,495
Hanover	62	23	47	4	0.25	3	37.24	11.39	87	3,379	124	5,537
Shippensburg	65	30	51	9	0.24	3	44.19	18.98	96	3,442	200	5,611
South Mountain	59	25	45	5	0.33	2	39.09	13.71	81	2,706	53	4,734
York	62	21	47	4	0.26	2	31.09	3.71	78	3,383	130	5,554
Southeast												
Green Lane	61	26	46	4	0.25	2	42.71	14.13	91	3,588	696	5,782
Hamburg	61	28	47	8	0.25	2	39.98	6.79	101	3,254	647	5,405
Hopewell	61	26	47	3	0.24	2	41.90	12.08	114	3,309	-139	5,478
Lancaster	61	29	48	6	0.34	2	37.15	8.51	98	3,397	332	5,590
Neshaminy Falls	64	26	47	5	0.20	2	40.35	7.81	82	3,584	561	5,785
New Holland	62	25	48	6	0.26	2	39.05	10.41	99	3,377	312	5,549
Philadelphia	62	30	50	5	0.17	2	36.71	9.21	84	3,989	409	6,235
Philadelphia NE	62	30	50	5	0.13	2	39.53	12.03	87	3,840	260	6,075
Reading	62	29	48	7	0.27	2	39.47	8.96	93	3,438	438	5,624
Valley Forge Na	63	23	45	1	0.27	2	42.60	12.78	80	3,406	-42	5,555
Willow Grove	61	33	49	7	0.26	2	32.67	0.13	93	3,548	525	5,756

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).
Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.
Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.
Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.
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Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT) - Bean yields are not turning out as good as corn; generally they're in the mid-40's.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - Most farmers in the county are winding up harvest and hoping for one more week of dry weather to finish up. Wet weather has again dominated the weekend, slowing harvest completion. Equipment maintenance and winter storage are the main focus for most farmers now.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Paul G. Benchhoff - The corn harvest is over except in a few wet areas. Excellent yields. The soybean harvest is over with good yields. Barley is making good growth. The same can be said for wheat, though not as well advanced.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr (FSA) - A good week for finishing up field work; final harvesting of corn for grain is being delayed due to massive amounts of grain being handled by the mills. Soybeans are mostly harvested with some producers still waiting on the custom work to be completed.

FULTON COUNTY, Russ McLucas - Corn harvest would be done if there was any available storage space remaining in area.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield (EXT) - Corn and soybean harvesting continues; some farmers are done with their own crops and are doing custom harvesting for their neighbors. There is still a fair amount of corn standing while the soybean harvest is nearly complete. Wet soil conditions are a problem for farmers again this year.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, Robert H. Fulmer - This is the best corn crop we have ever had.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - Harvesting of corn and soybeans is near completion. However, storage is a problem in some areas. This was a good week weather-wise except for showers that moved into the area on Friday evening and lasted through most of Saturday. Activities were mostly harvesting of fall crops, spreading manure, chopping corn stalks and preparing machinery for winter storage.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA) - Again, harvest conditions were very good until the rain arrived Friday morning. Corn harvest continues on many farms with above average yields still being reported. Before winter, livestock operations continue to pump down their manure storage and spread on both harvested grain and hay fields.

YORK COUNTY, Wayne Kurtz (FSA) - With good weather conditions, the soybean harvest is about complete. Full efforts now shift to corn, and another two weeks should wrap things up. Due to good yields, combining has taken longer and storage still remains a problem in places.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 21, 2004

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	93	71	83
Corn, harvested	88	77	85
Wheat, emerged	88	91	93
Soybeans, harvested	84	74	84

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 21, 2004

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	3	18	66	13

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